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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA

Integrated Transport Survey
(BOL/77/006)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	September 1978
Starting date of project activities:	September 1978
Planned completion date:	December 1981
To be executed by:	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Transport, Communications and Civil Aeronautics
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$1 724 600 (UNDP financed: $250 000) (Government cost sharing: $1 474 600)
Source of financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. Bolivia, with a total area of 1.1 million square kilometres, is divided in three distinct geographical areas with different topography and population distribution. Thus, transport communications are complicated and costly. Furthermore, the existing networks (railways 3,438 kilometres, highways 37,784 kilometres (mostly unpaved), river transportation 1,600 kilometres) have proven totally deficient while air traffic is the only mode of transport for many regions of the country.

2. To overcome some of the natural handicaps created by Bolivia's situation, several Government policies exist with the aim of establishing a better transport infrastructure and for which public sector investment is contemplated in the country's Development Plan 1976-1980.To achieve this long-term aim, better information is required on the costs and benefits of every mode of transport, i.e. railways, highways, rivers and lakes, air, and pipelines.

* In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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3. This project, conceived in two phases, is part of a continuous process of developing an integrated system for the transport sector. It is designed to provide the basis for the planning and co-ordination of the sector, and the identification of projects for financial organizations. It is anticipated that its second phase will provide technical assistance for the implementation of its recommendations.

II. Objectives and activities

4. The immediate objective of the present project is to carry out an integrated transport survey in the country within certain terms of reference which can be summarized as follows: (a) to provide the Government with a Master National Transport Plan for the development of a co-ordinated transport system; (b) to define investment policies suitable for each mode of transport identified in the country as well as others found during the planning process; (c) to identify for the World Bank and other international investment sources, a series of interrelated projects; and (d) institutionally to strengthen the Planning and Co-ordination Directorate at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Civil Aeronautics. It will also provide a comparative analysis of transport costs for different entry ports for Bolivia, on the Pacific as well as on the Atlantic.

III. Inputs

5. UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, the services of a subcontracted consultant's firm for the preparation of the integrated transport survey during the first phase, and of an economist and an engineer to assist in the implementation stage of the second phase, as well as fellowships for technical personnel, and equipment.

6. In addition to its cost-sharing contribution, financed through a World Bank loan, the Government will also provide qualified professional and supporting staff, office space, supplies and equipment directly to the project.

IV. Financial data

7. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

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Personnel	374 400
Subcontracts	1 292 000
Training	13 200
Equipment	35 000
Miscellaneous	10 000
Total	1 724 600
Financed by:	
UNDP	250 000
Government	1 474 600

8. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly by the Government to the project, is $1.0 million in kind.

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